CLAIMS

1-36. (Canceled)

37. (New) A timing notice apparatus comprising:

a synchronization information extraction circuit configured to extract frame synchronization information from a reference signal, said frame synchronization information being within said reference signal;

a synchronization information generation circuit configured to generate a synthesized signal in the absence of said reference signal, a timing notice signal being said frame synchronization information or said synthesized signal;

a controller configured to output said timing notice signal only upon receipt of an acquisition command, said timing notice signal demarcating a field of image data.

38. (New) The timing notice apparatus as set forth in claim 37, wherein said controller is configured to output said timing notice signal at a frame frequency of the image data.

39. (New) The timing notice apparatus as set forth in claim 37, further comprising:

a general-purpose interface unit interfaced with an external peripheral editing device, said timing notice signal being transferable from said general-purpose interface unit to said external peripheral editing device,

wherein said general-purpose interface is configured to relay commands and information between a personal computer and said external peripheral editing device.

40. (New) The timing notice apparatus as set forth in claim 37, wherein said controller is configured to receive said acquisition command from a universal serial bus and output said timing notice signal onto said universal serial bus.

41. (New) The timing notice apparatus as set forth in claim 40, wherein said controller is configured to receive operating power from said universal serial bus.

42. (New) A computer comprising:

an interface unit configured to transmit an acquisition command, said acquisition command being generated when an editing start command is input through an operation unit,

wherein said interface unit is configured to re-transmit said acquisition command after receiving a timing notice signal, said timing notice signal demarcating a field of image data.

43. (New) The computer as set forth in claim 42, wherein said interface unit receives said timing notice signal at a frame frequency of the image data.

44. (New) A computer program embodied in a tangible non-transitory computer-readable storage medium, the computer program comprising:

a device driver configured to transmit an acquisition command and thereafter await a receipt of a timing notice signal, said acquisition command being generated when an editing start command is input through an operation unit;

an application program interface configured to resend said acquisition command to said device driver upon a notification from said device driver, said notification indicating said receipt of the timing notice signal,

wherein said timing notice signal demarcates a field of image data.

45. (New) An editing system comprising:

a computer configured to transmit an acquisition command and await receipt of a timing notice signal, said timing notice signal demarcating a field of image data;

a timing notice apparatus configured to await receipt of said acquisition command and transmit said timing notice signal, said timing notice signal being transmitted upon receipt of said acquisition command,

wherein said timing notice signal is within a reference signal, said timing notice signal being extractable from within said reference signal.

46. (New) The editing system as set forth in claim 45, wherein said timing notice signal is creatable in the absence of said reference signal.

47. (New) The editing system as set forth in claim 45, wherein said timing notice apparatus is configured to transmit said timing notice signal at a frame frequency of the image data.

48. (New) The editing system as set forth in claim 45, wherein said computer is configured to re-transmit said acquisition command after receiving said timing notice signal.

49. (New) The editing system as set forth in claim 45, wherein said timing notice apparatus is configured to receive said acquisition command from a universal serial bus and transmit said timing notice signal onto said universal serial bus.

50. (New) The editing system as set forth in claim 49, wherein said timing notice apparatus is configured receive operating power from said universal serial bus.

51. (New) The editing system as set forth in claim 50, wherein said computer is configured to supply operating power to said universal serial.

52. (New) The editing system as set forth in claim 45, wherein said computer includes a tangible non-transitory computer-readable storage medium, a computer program embodied in said storage medium comprising:

a device driver configured to transmit said acquisition command and thereafter await said receipt of the timing notice signal;

an application program interface configured to resend said acquisition command to said device driver upon a notification from said device driver, said notification indicating said receipt of the timing notice signal.

53. (New) The editing system as set forth in claim 45, wherein said timing notice apparatus comprises:

a synchronization information extraction circuit configured to extract frame synchronization information from a reference signal, said frame synchronization information being within said reference signal;

a synchronization information generation circuit configured to generate a synthesized signal in the absence of said reference signal, said timing notice signal being said frame synchronization information or said synthesized signal;

a controller configured to output said timing notice signal only upon receipt of an acquisition command, said timing notice signal demarcating a field of image data.

54. (New) The editing system as set forth in claim 45, wherein said timing notice apparatus comprises:

a general-purpose interface unit interfaced with an external peripheral editing device, said timing notice signal being transferable from said general-purpose interface unit to said external peripheral editing device,

wherein said general-purpose interface is configured to relay commands and information between said computer and said external peripheral editing device.

55. (New) The editing system as set forth in claim 45, wherein a second timing notice apparatus is connectable to said computer, said second timing notice apparatus being configured to await receipt of said acquisition command and transmit a second timing notice signal.

56. (New) The editing system as set forth in claim 55, wherein a second timing notice apparatus is connectable to said computer through a hub.

57. (New) The editing system as set forth in claim 55, wherein said second timing notice signal is transmitted upon receipt of said acquisition command.

58. (New) The editing system as set forth in claim 55, wherein frame frequencies of said image data and second image data differ, said second timing notice signal being transmissible from said second timing notice apparatus at said frame frequency of the second image data.

59. (New) The editing system as set forth in claim 55, wherein said second timing notice signal is within a second reference signal, said second timing notice signal being extractable from within said second reference signal.

60. (New) A method for acquiring timing, the method comprising:

transmitting an acquisition command from an editing apparatus, a device driver in said editing apparatus awaiting receipt of a timing notice signal;

transmitting said timing notice signal upon receipt of said acquisition command, said timing notice signal demarcating a field of image data,

wherein said timing notice signal is within a reference signal, said timing notice signal being extractable from within said reference signal.

61. (New) The method as set forth in claim 60, wherein said device driver receives said timing notice signal, said editing apparatus re-transmitting said acquisition command upon receipt of said timing notice signal.

62. (New) The method as set forth in claim 60, wherein a timing notice apparatus extracts said timing notice signal from within said reference signal, said timing notice apparatus synthesizing said timing notice signal in the absence of said reference signal.

63. (New) The method as set forth in claim 60, wherein said editing apparatus transmits said acquisition command in response to an editing start command, said editing start command being an input to an operation unit.